U.S. Department of State
2006 Summary Privacy Impact Assessment

TITLE: Consular Support and Visa Applications
October 2006
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I. **What information is to be collected (e.g., nature and source)? Be sure to include any information in an identifiable form, e.g., name, address, social security number or other identifying number or code, telephone number, email address, etc).**

The Consular Support and Visa Applications program includes numerous systems that support the consular function. The systems under this program that collect process and store personally identifiable information are used to process visa applications (immigrant and non-immigration visas) and to store American Citizen Services data. The type and nature of information that is collected varies from system to system but includes wide array of identifying information required for the maintenance of these systems.

II. **Why is the information being collected (e.g., to determine eligibility)?**

The information is being collected and stored for the purpose of facilitating the processing of visa applications and for providing services to American citizens overseas and in many cases issuing travel documents. This allows non-citizens to obtain quicker decisions on their visa applications and the Department to assist U.S. Citizens overseas.

III. **How will the information be used (e.g., to verify existing data)?**

Automated Cash Register System (ACRS) is used by overseas posts to record payment of fees and issuance of receipts for consular services.

Consular Consolidated Database (CCD) is used by consular personnel as a resource for verifying prior visa issuances/refusals. It is also used by consular management for statistical reporting. Finally, it is the repository for visa issuance data that is transferred to DHS programs – IBIS/TECs and US-VISIT.

Non-Immigrant Visa System (NIV) is used by Overseas Posts for the processing, adjudication and issuance of machine-readable non-immigrant visas (MRV).

Immigrant Visa System (IVO) is used by Overseas Posts for the processing, adjudication and issuance of machine-readable immigrant visas (MRIV)

Immigrant Visa Information System (IVIS) is used for the clerical processing (non-adjudicative) of immigrant visa petitions/appointments at the National Visa Center in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Diversity Visa Information System (DVIS) is used for the clerical processing (non-adjudicative) of diversity immigrant visa applications at the Kentucky Consular Center in Williamsburg, Kentucky.

Immigrant Visa Allocation Management System (IVAMS) is used by the Visa Office to manage immigrant visa allocations worldwide.

Immigrant Visa Allocation Management System -Web (IVAMSWeb) is used by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to request immigrant visa allocations for the processing of adjustment of status cases.

Visa Opinion Information Service (VOIS) is used by the Visa Office to manage the processing of advisory and security advisory opinion requests.

Interagency Visa Data Sharing Program (DATASHARE) is used to transfer visa data to/from the Interagency Border Inspection System (IBIS).

Electronic Diversity Lottery Visa Application System (e-DV) is used by prospective Diversity Visa Lottery applicants to submit an electronic application for the Diversity Visa Lottery.

Electronic Visa Application Forms (EVAF) is used by prospective non-immigrant visa applicants to create a non-immigrant visa application (DS-156) online that includes bar codes used by the post to scan data into the NIV system.

IV.   Will you share the information with others (e.g., another agency for a programmatic purpose)? If yes, list the entities.

Information is shared with other government agencies subject to section 222(f) of the INA.

V.   What opportunities do individuals have to decline to provide information or to consent to particular use of the information (e.g., whether individual may withhold permission for a particular use)?

The applicant provides all data by completing forms. All forms at the time of data collection contain a Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Statement, which indicates that in accordance with INA Section 222(f) visa issuance and refusal records shall be considered confidential and shall be used only for the formulation, amendment, administration, or enforcement of the immigration, nationality and other laws of the United States. Certified copies of visa records may be made available to a court which certifies that the information contained in such records is needed in a case pending before the court.   It averages 1 hour to complete.

VI.   How will the information be secured (e.g., administrative and technological controls)?

Access to the consular systems is determined based on the user's need to complete his mission. User's roles are assigned by local systems administrators based on the job the employee will be performing. Users only have access to the data granted to the role that they have been assigned.

VII.   Is a Privacy Act System of Records being created? (e.g., Will data be retrieved by a personal identifier such as name, social security number, address, telephone number or some other identifier that is unique to an individual)?

The corresponding System of Records notices for this system are: **Visa Records. STATE-39**; **Passport Records. STATE-26**; **Overseas Records. STATE-25**; **Overseas Citizens Services Records. STATE-05**. Data is routinely retrieved using, name, date of birth, and place of birth. Depending on the system used to process the applicants record, case numbers or applicant ids may also be used to retrieve applicant data.